

To Every Thing There is a Season

Joyce Cairns RSA, RSW, Hon RBA, MA(RCA)

Peter Chalmers

Lennox Dunbar RSA

David Forster RSW

Ruth Lough

Tom Mabon

Moira Maclean

Jennifer McRae RSA

Ann Patrick

Ann Wegmuller RSW, RWS

Helen Wilson RSW, RGI, PAI

Keith Byres

THE RENDEZVOUS GALLERY

You are cordially invited to our Private View

“To Every Thing There is a Season”

Friday, November 10th, 2017, 6pm - 8pm

Exhibition ends Saturday, November 25th, 2017

‘To Every Thing There is a Season’, a passage from the Book of Ecclesiastes (3:1-8), became the lyrics of Pete Seeger’s song ‘Turn Turn Turn’ in the 1950’s. This song was originally released in 1962 as ‘To Every Thing There is a Season’ on the Limeliter’s album ‘Folk Matinee’ and later on Seeger’s album, ‘The Bitter and the Sweet’. It became a hit for Judy Collins in 1964 and an international hit in 1965 when it was adopted by the American folk rock group The Byrds. In 2008, it became a hit by Bruce Springsteen.

In conjunction with this exhibition, 12 invited gallery artists have painted spring, a time of natural renewal; summer, a time of light, joviality, expression and wholehearted action; autumn, a season of transition and Nature’s ‘last hoorah’ and winter, a season for dormancy, introversion and contemplation.

The artists’ interpretations of this lyrical passage and its influence on lyrics by popular icons of the 20th century provide a fascinating experience for viewers of the exhibition.

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Joyce Cairns RSA, RSW, Hon RBA, MA(RCA)

Joyce was born and brought up in Edinburgh. She studied painting at Grays School of Art, Aberdeen from 1966 -71 and The Royal College of Art, London 1971 -74. She was awarded a Fellowship at Gloucester College of Art and Design 1974-75 re-turning to London where she did the Art Teacher's Certificate Course at Goldsmiths College, University of London 1975-76.

In 1976 she returned to Aberdeen where she taught Drawing and Painting at Grays School of Art until 2004 when she took early retirement to complete the vast body of work which culminated in 'War Tourist'. It was exhibited for 3 months in 2006 at Aberdeen Art Gallery, attracting nearly 30,000 visitors.

Her work is mainly autobiographical based on past memories intertwined with present experiences, woven around the backcloth of the once fishing village of Footdee at the mouth of Aberdeen harbour where she has lived for the past 33 years. 'War Tourist' was based on her Father's war backed up by extensive research following in his footsteps through Europe and Tunisia.



'In Spring a Young Man's Fancy'
Oil on paper



'I Gaze Where August's Sun Beam
Falls' Oil on paper



'Seasons of Mist and Mellow
Fruitfulness' Oil on paper



'In the Bleak Mid Winter'
Oil on paper

Peter Chalmers

The starting point for this group of Paintings was the annual cycle of festivals that are celebrated nationally. Each piece is a response to three events of cultural significance observed in that season - one for each month. A collage is then developed and an image discovered. A variety of spaces are teased out, reflecting other aspects of the season. This in some ways, however, belies the element of chance that runs through my practice.

Peter Chalmers was born in Nairn, Scotland, in 1985. He studied Painting at Gray's School of Art (2003-2007) where he now works as a Lecturer. Since graduating he has exhibited widely and has been the recipient of several national awards. Peter's work is included in numerous public and private collections, including The Robert Gordon University, The Royal Scottish Academy and Aberdeen Asset Management.



'Spring', Acrylic on panel



'Winter', Acrylic on panel



'Summer', Acrylic on panel



'Autumn', Acrylic on panel

Lennox Dunbar RSA

In 1978 he was selected by the Scottish Arts Council to set up the Amsterdam studio. A founder member of Peacock Printmakers he went on to become Education Officer with them until 1986 when he was appointed lecturer in Painting and Print-making at Grays. In 1987 he was appointed Head of Printmaking, and has been visiting artist at many Universities and printmaking workshops throughout the world. Since 1999 until now, he has conducted annual workshops at what was initially The Printmaking Center, now called Makingartsafely in Santa Fe New Mexico.

In 2008 he was awarded a professorship by The Robert Gordon University and Emeritus Professor on retirement from Grays in 2011.

He has exhibited widely throughout the world in both group and solo exhibitions and is represented in many collections.

His work is mainly in constructed painting form, reflecting a variety of references as starting points. The paintings are built and adjusted many times in the search for a solution, and owe much to the language of collage.



'New Shoots - Spring', Mixed media



'Gate - Summer', Mixed media



'Moor - Autumn', Mixed media



'Snow - Winter', Mixed media

David Forster RSW

David Forster is a landscape painter working in watercolour and fluid acrylic.

His often intensely wrought landscape paintings refer to the traditions of the 18th and 19th centuries. Though the scenes depicted are topographically correct, light and colour are altered to create a fictionalised reality, that nonetheless conveys the authority of photo realist document.

He is most fascinated by the interaction between the man made and the wild, and the way in which accidental or deliberate facsimiles of wild spaces in the city act as a spur to our imagination. The watercolour studies exhibited here reflect his long association with the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh, a place where this contrivance of the natural is particularly elaborate.

He has exhibited widely in Britain and Europe since the 1990's, and won numerous prizes, most notably, The Sunday Times Watercolour Prize in 2013.



'Spring' (Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh),
Watercolour on paper



'Summer' (Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh),
Watercolour on paper



'Autumn' (Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh),
Watercolour on paper



'Winter' (Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh),
Watercolour on paper

Tom Mabon

As an art student I first saw Paul Nash's painting 'Wood on the Downs' forty three years ago in Aberdeen Art Gallery. At that time it didn't make a significant impression on me, someone fresh from secondary school. It had been painted in 1930 and I was young and looking for something more modern.

Artists have pictures, which over the years, be-come old friends and this is one of mine. I saw it last December in the Paul Nash exhibition at the Tate Gallery. Seeing it again fitted in perfectly with Duane's invitation to take part in this show.



'Springfield', Oil on linen



'Summer Farm', Oil on linen



'Autumn Track', Oil on linen



'Hawthorn Winter', Oil on linen

Moira Maclean

In this quartet I have tried to capture the essence of the four seasons in the Outer Hebrides from the same view point.

The optimistic return of spring, the machair starts foaming with flowers, birds dart and glide, a blinding new light, a fresh start.

Summer is like a celebration in the Hebrides, the glittering turquoise sea, the white sand, the machair a meadow of wild flowers, the memory of swallows and flags afloat on the breeze. I want to live inside this picture.

Summer ends and there is an irresistible feeling of change in the air. Autumn arrives and leaves fall like oversize confetti. It is time to harvest. Rainbows arch the sky which is full of migrating geese and other birds. It is a very special time for me as it is the season of the birth of my first child.

Winter comes and the ground is scoured and bleached. There is a white stillness; the calm before the storms.



'Spring Flight'
Mixed media collage



'Summer Gala Day'
Mixed media collage



'Autumn Rainbow'
Mixed media collage



'Winter Silence'
Mixed media collage

Jennifer McRae RSA

There are parallels to be drawn between the veined delicacy of flowers and the textures of our skin. As a painter of human beings I find the same excitement in the qualities of botanical subject matter. People age, flowers turn through the seasons.



'Spring Irises'
Oil on linen



'Tensile Strength'
Watercolour



'Nature - Autumn'
Oil on linen



'Winter Tulips'
Watercolour

Ruth Lough

I have chosen to illustrate the Greek story of Demeter and Persephone, explaining the dramatic differences between the Seasons - how growing things "go to Earth" for the winter months and are renewed in all their beauty in Springtime.

The quotations I have used are from the marvellously complex Homeric Ode to Demeter, a tale of gods and goddesses, intrigues and disguises. In essence the story tells us that Persephone, the daughter of the god Zeus, and Demeter, the mother of the earth, was playing with her friends among summer flowers. She saw one that was bigger and more beautiful than the rest, but when she picked it, the earth split open. Hades, the god of the underworld appeared in his chariot and spirited her away to his kingdom.

Demeter, in great grief, searches the earth for her beloved daughter, leaving, in her trail, a devastation of all growing things.



'Spring', Watercolour



'Summer', Watercolour



'Autumn', Watercolour



'Winter', Watercolour

Ann Patrick

Studied at Dundee Art College and Hospitalfield House. Has held exhibitions in Scotland and Japan. Her work is in many collections at home and abroad. I have always been drawn to painting subjects which are transient. The present exhibition representing the passage of time through the seasons made me consider the uncertainties of life itself.

*Like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken
Like the first bird.*

Eleanor Farjeon

The blackbird in each painting became a symbol for my optimism of Spring's return.



'Moroccan Summer'
Oil on board



'Fruitful Autumn'
Oil on board



'Winter Journey'
Oil on board



'Celebrating Spring on Lewis'
Oil on board

Ann Wegmuller RSW, RWS

Ann Wegmuller was born in Gourrock, Renfrewshire, in 1941. She attended Glasgow School of Art evening classes while still at school in the 1950s. She married in Switzerland and was there for 10 years before returning to Scotland in 1971.

She resumed her art studies, graduating from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art in 1985. Since then she has won numerous awards and is a member of the RSW and the RWS. Her work is in private and corporate collections worldwide. She is also in the public collection of the Qingdao Museum, China.

Her paintings are mainly landscape based as she lives in rural Perthshire. Her trips to the seaside which feel like “going home” have also been a part of the creative process.

“These small paintings are my response to the Scottish landscape and its seasons. The weather to me is the strongest indication of a change in these seasons and is out with our control. It is a blessing to live in a land with both rain and wind and have shelter from both.”



'Shrine to the Spring'
Oil



'Saint to the Summer Rain'
Oil & gold leaf



'Saint to the Autumn Wind'
Oil & gold leaf



'Winter Harbour'
Oil

Helen Wilson RSW, RGI, PAI

Helen was born and brought up in Paisley, Renfrewshire. She studied Drawing and Painting at Glasgow School of Art from 1971-76, and after spending time on Colonsay and in Italy, courtesy of a Cargill Travelling Scholarship, she returned to Glasgow, where she has lived and worked ever since.

A particular interest in theatre inspired two major exhibitions, 'A Portrait of Scottish Ballet' in 2005, held at Roger Billcliffe Fine Art, Glasgow, and 'A Portrait of Scottish Opera', held in 2012 at the Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh.

Her work is, however, difficult to categorise, ranging, as it does, from straightforward portraiture to (mostly small-scale) constructions.



'Primary Colours (Rose-tinted)', Mixed media



'Summer Idyll', Mixed media



'Silver Threads', Mixed media



'Drawing to a Close', Mixed media

WINDOW EXHIBITION

'The Four Seasons'

By

Keith Byres

What fascinates me about the Scottish Highland landscape is that within the elemental expanse of sky, mountain, loch and glen are tenuous, tentative veins of human habitation.

In these four paintings I have embarked on a seasonal journey, glimpsing highland life and vista's and as a memory of trips to the highlands in my youth.

Keith Byres is a Scottish Artist and Studio Rep at Wasps Artists' Studios Langstane, living and working in Aberdeen.



'Autumn Song', Oil on canvas



'Edge of Spring', Oil on canvas



'Summer Sojourner', Oil on canvas



'Winterlude', Oil on canvas

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

JUDY COLLINS - Turn Turn Turn, 1964 Ecclesiastes 3King James Version (KJV)